



Contact: Erny Zah
Director of Communications

Cell: (928) 380-0771

navajonationpress@navajo-nsn.gov

For Immediate Release
December 21, 2012

President Shelly Delivered Partnership Message at Navajo County Inauguration

HOLBROOK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly delivered a message of partnership with Navajo County at the Navajo County inaugural ceremony on Thursday.

“Days like today, we renew our commitment to the service of our constituents and our people. We renew our ideas to make our communities better. We remind ourselves the reason why we ran for office, because at the very core of who we are, regardless of party affiliation, we believe we can make a difference,” President Shelly stated.



(Left To Right) Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly stands with Navajo County Supervisor Jonathan Nez, Supervisor Sylvia Allen, Supervisor Dawnafe Whitesinger, and Supervisor Jesse Thompson.

President Shelly also commended Navajo county officials for the county’s redistricting efforts. Through joint effort, in 2011, comments and input were sought from the Navajo County public in regards to redistricting efforts along with the formation of a redistricting team that offered recommendations.

“I look forward to continue the good working relationship the Navajo Nation has with Navajo County. We also look forward to working with the White Mountain Apache Tribe as well and doing all we can to unify all of Navajo County. Our people in Navajo County have many needs, from roads, to water, to health care and public safety,” President Shelly stated.

The Navajo Nation recommended increasing the Native American Voting Age population in District 5, which resulted in electing Dawnafe Whitesinger, Navajo/White Mountain Apache, of Whiteriver, Ariz. to county supervisor seat.

“We had the honor of being joined by the President of the Navajo Nation Ben Shelly, who shared about the value of the County and the Navajo Nation continuing to partner together to better serve the citizens of the County,” stated re-elected County Supervisor Delegate Jonathan Nez of District I. Nez also serves on the Navajo Nation Council.

Jesse Thompson joined Dawnafe Whitesinger and Nez as three Navajos to serve on Navajo County Board of Supervisors.

Sheriff Kelly “KC” Clark, County Attorney Brad Carlyon, Assessor Cammy Darris, Treasurer Manuel “Manny” Hernandez, Recorder Laurette “Lori” Justman, Superintendent of Schools Linda L. Morrow, Superior Court Judge Robert J. Higgins, Superior Court Judge John Lamb, Superior Court Judge Michala Ruechel, Supervisor Nez, Supervisor Jesse Thompson and Supervisor David Tenney were sworn into previously held positions in the county. Supervisor Sylvia Allen (District III) and Supervisor Whitesinger (District V) were newly elected.

###